

REMARKS

Claims 1-17 presently stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as being indefinite.

Claims 1, 10 and 14 are deemed as vague and indefinite with respect to the recitations of the electrical conductivity before baking and after baking. Specifically, the Examiner's questions whether the instant system or method measure before baking and then remove the anode and bake it and put it back into the system to retest or whether this is a continual system and process where the electrical conductivity is checked before baking and then is baked during movement through the system and the electrical conductivity is checked again after baking. Claims 2-9, 11-13 and 15-17 stand rejected as with their respective independent claims. In response thereto, Claim 1 has been cancelled and Claims 10 and 14 have been amended to recite that the measurements after baking are performed conventionally or by monitoring their efficiency during use (See Specification, Page 8, lines 6-13.)

Claims 1-10 and 13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mallory (5552704) in combination with Hash (6268723). However, Claims 11, 12, 14 and 15 include patentable subject matter. Hence, Claim 11 has been placed in independent form and both Claims 11 and 14 have been amended including the amendment to overcome the Section 112 rejection.

New claim 18 is submitted herewith based on former Claim 17.

All grounds of objection and rejection having been overcome by the amendments hereinabove, reconsideration and a Notice of Allowance are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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